VIRGINIA: A SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE SURRY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

HELD IN THE GENERAL DISTRICT COURTROOM OF THE SURRY COUNTY

GOVERNMENT CENTER ON OCTOBER 2, 2014 AT 7:00P.M.

PRESENT: SUPERVISOR ERNEST L. BLOUNT, CHAIRMAN

SUPERVISOR JUDY S. LYTTLE, VICE-CHAIR

SUPERVISOR JOHN M. SEWARD SUPERVISOR KENNETH R. HOLMES SUPERVISOR GIRON R. WOODEN, SR.

**ALSO** 

PRESENT: MR. TYRONE W. FRANKLIN, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

MS. TERRI E. HALE, FINANCE DIRECTOR MR. BRENDAN HEFTY, COUNTY ATTORNEY

MS. RHONDA L. RUSSELL, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

MR. STACEY WILLIAMS, BUILDING OFFICIAL MRS. BILLIE JEAN ELMER, VCE UNIT DIRECTOR

MRS. VALERIE PIERCE, DIRECTOR, SURRY SOCIAL SERVICES

MS. GAIL CLAYTON, CLERK, CIRCUIT COURT

**DEPUTY BENNIE BACK** 

## CALL TO ORDER/MOMENT OF SILENCE/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Blount who then asked for a moment of silence. Following the moment of silence, he asked those present to stand and say the pledge of allegiance.

#### **CONSENT ITEMS**

- 1. Approval of September 4, 2014 Minutes, Board of Supervisors
- 2. Approval of October 2014 Accounts Payable:

#### (Represents FY 13-14)

	Accounts		
	Payable	Additional	Total
General Fund	\$2,540.20		\$2,540.20
Debt Service	\$0.00		\$0.00
Capital	\$0.00		\$0.00
Water & Sewer	\$0.00		\$0.00
CSA	\$0.00		\$0.00
Indoor Plumbing	\$0.00		\$0.00
Juror Payments	\$0.00		\$0.00
Totals	\$2,540.20		\$2,540.20

# (Represents FY 14-15)

	Accounts		
	Payable	Additional	Total
General Fund	\$59,812.79	\$276,587.44	\$336,400.23
Debt Service	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Capital	\$1,883.55 \$57,719.6		\$59,603.21
Water & Sewer	\$2,163.48	\$2,163.48 \$42,023.48	
CSA	\$1,050.00	\$158.13	\$1,208.13
Indoor Plumbing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Juror Payments	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Totals	\$64,909.82	\$376,638.71	\$441,548.53

# 3. Appropriation Requests:

Dept. of Social Serv October 2014		\$140,000.00
	Total	\$1,000,000.00
	Technology	\$125,000.00
	Capital Projects	\$0.00
	Debt Service	\$0.00
	Food Serv.	\$50,000.00
	Operation/Maint.	\$145,000.00
	Pupil Transp.	\$85,000.00
	Admin./Health	\$70,000.00
School System - October 2014	Instruction	\$525,000.00

# 4. General Fund $2^{nd}$ Quarter Appropriations:

	FY 14-15	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	Remaining
	Budget	Request	Request	Balance
General				
Government	\$8,413,150.00	\$2,465,181.75	\$2,151,275.00	\$3,796,693.25
Special Funds	\$304,045.00	\$155,000.00	\$80,000.00	\$69,045.00
Debt Service	\$1,603,127.00	\$100,000.00	\$800,000.00	\$703,127.00
Water & Sewer	\$357,364.00	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$157,364.00
Capital Projects	\$6,250,000.00	\$2,975,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$2,275,000.00
TOTALS	\$16,927,686.00	\$5,795,181.75	\$4,131,275.00	\$7,001,229.25

- 5. Budget Amendment (School System): \$160,924.00
- 6. FY 13-14 Supplemental Appropriation \$105,695.00 & Categorical Transfer \$13,744.86 (School System)

Supervisor Lyttle made a motion that the Board approve the Consent Items as enumerated. Supervisor Seward seconded the motion. Supervisors Blount, Wooden, Holmes, Lyttle and Seward voted affirmatively to approve the motion.

#### **PROGRESS REPORTS**

#### 1. VDOT

No Report was provided; however, Mr. Franklin informed all present that Route 626 (Lebanon Road) had been re-opened to traffic following a year-long construction project and that Route 634 (Highgate Road) would be closed to through traffic from October 6<sup>th</sup> through October 10<sup>th</sup> due to bridge construction.

#### 2. Treasurer

#### A. Investment Letter

Chairman Blount read the Investment Letter provided by Mary H. Shaw, Treasurer, which stated that as of the September 4, 2014 meeting the County had \$12,353,490.36 in the LGIP Fund. Since that report, accrued interest for August 2014 in the amount of \$1,123.41 had increased that balance to \$12,354,613.77. Since the last report, \$1,000,000.00 was transferred from LGIP to the General Fund leaving a balance in the LGIP of \$11,354,613.77. As of October 2, 2014 the County had \$11,862,548.35 in total investments, including one CD valued at \$507,934.58 which matures on January 18, 2015.

#### 3. County Administration

# A. Presentation: National 4-H Week Proclamation

Participants of the Surry County 4-H program, Miss Isis Veiga (Carsley District) and Mr. DaReyon Howell (Surry District) addressed the Board to inform that the week of October 5-11, 2014 will be observed as National 4-H Week. In Surry over 300 members in the 4-H program who participate in community clubs, project clubs, after school groups and residential and day camping events will join in the celebration.

Miss Veiga also reported on accomplishments of 4-H participants during the previous year and both speakers expressed their appreciation to the Board for the support that they provide to the 4-H program. They also provided a small token of appreciation to each Board member, Mr. Franklin and assembled staff.

Supervisor Lyttle made a motion that the Board approve a proclamation recognizing the contributions of the 4-H program and designating October 5-11, 2014 as National 4-H Week in Surry County. Supervisor Holmes seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

B. Presentation: Route 460 Corridor Improvements Project Update Mr. Philip C. Rinehart, P.E. addressed the Board to provide a project update with regard to the Route 460 Corridor Improvements Project. He informed that the environmental study was complete (in draft format) and available to download from their website: <a href="http://www.route460project.org/draft supplemental environmental impact statement.asp">http://www.route460project.org/draft supplemental environmental impact statement.asp</a>. He further informed the Board and assembled guests of three upcoming public hearings scheduled to obtain input from local governments and the public at-large.

# C. Presentation: Surry County Tourism Logo Development

Mrs. Kathy Howell, President and Creative Director of Howell Creative Group, along with Ms. Ariel Zimmerman, Project Coordinator, addressed the Board relative to the development of a tourism logo for Surry County. Mrs. Howell provided background regarding the company and its development process. She then displayed the logo design which had been chosen by staff and approved by the Tourism Support Group at their meeting on September 16, 2014. Mrs. Howell and Ms. Zimmerman discussed elements of the design and their relevancy to the established tourism theme: "Savor the Secrets of Surry".

Supervisor Lyttle made a motion that the Board accept the tourism logo as presented. Supervisor Holmes seconded the motion which passed with unanimous approval.

#### D. Resolution 2014-22 VRA Financing

Ms. Terri Hale, Director of Finance, addressed the Board to inform that the County's FY15 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) included financing for 4 projects: construction and renovation of the Gray's Creek Marina, upgrades to public water systems, construction of a facility for use by the Surry County Volunteer Rescue Squad, and renovation of the former Clerk's Office for use as a Visitor Center. The Virginia Resources Authority (VRA) was determined to be the most cost effective method of financing because participating localities share in the costs of issuance.

Ms. Hale further informed that during the application process had been determined that approximately \$90,000 per year could be saved by refinancing the SunTrust 2006 and 2007 issues (the Government

Center and Historic Court House) and the SunTrust lease of 2008 (emergency services equipment).

Ms. Hale went on to recommend that the Board approve Resolution 2014-22 authorizing lease financing through the VRA in an amount not to exceed \$17,450,000. This amount would include \$5,027,000 for the projects included in the CIP and \$12,388,097 for the refinanced issues. Mr. George Scruggs, Bond Counsel, was also present and responded to questions from Board members.

Supervisor Lyttle made a motion that the Board authorize Resolution 2014-22 giving the County Administrator and staff authority to proceed with financing through the Virginia Resources Authority. Supervisor Holmes seconded the motion; Supervisors Blount, Seward, Holmes, Lyttle and Wooden voted affirmatively.

#### E. Resolution 2014-23 Senior Citizen 100 Years

Mr. Franklin presented Resolution 2014-23 recognizing Mrs. Julianna Johnson of Surry County who has obtained the age of 100 years.

Supervisor Holmes made a motion that the Board approve Resolution 2014-23 as presented. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Wooden and passed with unanimous approval.

# F. Request for Public Hearing: CUP 2014-04, Surry County Communications Tower

Ms. Rhonda Russell, Director of Planning and Community Development, addressed the Board to request that they authorize the advertisement and scheduling of a public hearing to consider a Conditional Use Permit Application by T. Franklin on behalf of Surry County for a Conditional Use to permit a +350' communication tower as a conditional use as permitted by Article III, Section 3-1002, General Industrial District, Permitted Uses, and Article IV, Supplementary Regulations, Section 4-903, Communication Tower, on an irregularly shaped parcel consisting of +142 acres located on the south side of Colonial Trail West/SR10, beginning +6,500' east of the intersection of Colonial Trail West/SR10 and Holly Bush Road/SR618, with an average depth of +5,400' and width of +1,100'. The subject property is zoned General Industrial District (M-2) and the Tax Parcel Identification Number is 40-1.

Ms. Russell informed that the matter had previously been considered by both the Surry County Board of Zoning Appeals and the Surry County Planning Commission and had met with their approval. She requested that the Board consider scheduling a public hearing for their November 6, 2014 meeting to hear public comments on the matter.

Supervisor Lyttle made a motion that the Board authorize the advertisement and scheduling of a public hearing to consider CUP 2014-04 on Thursday, November 6, 2014 at 7:00pm in the Surry County General District Courtroom. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Seward; Supervisors Blount, Lyttle, Wooden, Holmes and Seward voted affirmatively.

# G. Appointment Youth Services Citizen Board

Mr. Franklin informed the Board that an appointment was requested to fill the position of middle school representative to the Youth Services Citizen Board. Miss Maya Denise Drew has been recommended to fill that position.

Supervisor Seward made a motion that the Board appoint Miss Maya Denise Drew to the Surry County Youth Services Citizen Board as the middle school representative. Supervisor Holmes seconded the motion which passed with unanimous approval.

#### H. Continuation of Meeting

Mr. Franklin informed the Board of a joint meeting tentatively scheduled for Thursday, October 23, 2014 at 7:00pm in the General District Courtroom. This meeting will begin the process of development of the County's new Subdivision Ordinance. Also invited to attend the meeting are members of the Surry County Board of Zoning Appeals, Zoning Ordinance Steering Committee, Planning Commission, Chamber of Commerce, local developers surveyors and realtors. Upon the conclusion of this meeting, Mr. Franklin suggested that the Board elect to continue their meeting to the previously mentioned date and time. Chairman Blount suggested that the Board may wish to reconvene for an earlier work session to discuss matters relevant to personnel and buildings and grounds.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

#### 1. CUP 2014-03: Global Wind, LLC

Chairman Blount called the Public Hearing to order. Mr. Franklin stated that the public hearing was being conducted to receive public comments regarding CUP 2014-03 an application by Global Wind, LLC. is a request to locate  $\pm 287$  ground mounted solar modules with appurtenances on a 29.6 $\pm$  acre site, as permitted by Article III, Agricultural Rural District, Section 3-302, Permitted Uses, and Article IV, Section 4-908(D), Supplementary Regulations, of the Surry County Zoning Ordinance. The property is located on the west side of Chippokes Farm Road/SR633, beginning  $\pm 1,500$ ′ north of the intersection of Colonial Trail Ease/SR10 and Chippokes Farm Road/SR633, with  $\pm 500$ ′ of frontage along

Chippokes Farm Road/SR633, and an average depth of  $\pm 2,600$ '. The subject property is zoned Agricultural Rural District (A-R) and the Tax Parcel Identification Number is 42-15.

Mr. David Pharr, CEO of Global Wind, LLC, addressed the Board to provide information relative to the history and mission of the company and informed that Global Wind had been attracted to Surry County because of its long history of involvement with the power industry. Mr. Pharr also described the scope and mission of the proposed project.

Ms. Rhonda Russell, Director of Planning and Community Development, informed the Board that the project had been initiated in January 2014 and had received approval from the Surry County Board of Zoning Appeals and the Surry County Planning Commission with the following conditions:

- 1. The total height of the solar energy system, including any mounts, shall not exceed 15 feet above the ground when orientated at maximum tilt.
- 2. The solar energy system, including its security fence, shall be fully screened (semi opaque) with existing or proposed vegetation from rights-of-way and properties containing a residential use.
- 3. Any electrical wiring used in the system shall be underground (trenched) except where wiring is brought together for interconnection to system components and/or the local utility power grid.
- 4. Prior to the issuance of a building permit, provide a plan for decommissioning. The solar energy system owner shall have 12 months to complete decommissioning of the facility if no electricity is generated for a continuous 12 month period. Decommissioning shall include removal of solar collectors, cabling, electrical components, and any other associated items.
- 5. Provide a copy of the private lease agreement and plan for removal of the facility and equipment.
- 6. Expansion of the number of solar panels is permitted up to a maximum of 6 mega watts of power on the 29 acre site, contingent upon administrative review and approval.

Ms. Russell further stated that the project had been determined to have minimal impact on traffic, noise or the environment and would involve minimal land disturbance. She stated that the applicant had made deliberate effort to consider surrounding land owners by seeking their input, answering their concerns and providing generous setbacks.

Chairman Blount opened the floor for public comments.

Mr. Mike Eggleston (Dendron District) addressed the Board requesting clarification regarding the process of electrical generation that will be used by Global Wind. Mr. Pharr provided clarification.

Mrs. Betsy Sheppard (Surry District) spoke in favor of the project stating that she considered it to be a very positive step for Surry County.

Mrs. Helen Eggleston (Dendron District) also spoke in favor of the project stating that this would be a positive step forward for the County and that the project should have no negative effect on the community or the environment.

Mrs. Carolyn Dickens (Bacon's Castle District) addressed the Board stating that she is an adjacent land owner and expressed concerns regarding the project's visual impact on neighbors.

Mr. Jimmy McDonald (did not identify voting district) addressed the Board raising questions regarding the impact on neighboring property values.

Mr. Russell Hines (Surry District) requested information regarding the time frame for project construction.

Mrs. Brigid Jones (Claremont District and member of Claremont Town Council) expressed her support for the project and its long-term benefit to Surry County. She stated that this project was just another type of "farming" and should be welcome in an agricultural community such as Surry.

Mr. Ellis James (City of Norfolk) spoke in support of the solar farm project.

Mr. Joseph Robers (Surry District) addressed the Board to express his support for the project.

Ms. Karen Clancy (Surry District) expressed her support for the project and congratulated the Board for their forward thinking and fortitude for being a model for this type of project.

Ms. Stacy Hines (Surry District) spoke in support of the project.

Mr. John Stokes (Surry District) addressed the Board and informed, as a member of the Surry County Planning Commission, that the matter had been authorized by the Planning Commission by unanimous vote.

Mr. David Crandell (City of Norfolk) spoke in favor of the project stating that this was an historic opportunity to be the first solar project of its kind in the state.

Mrs. Diane Sheldon (Dendron District) addressed the Board requesting more information regarding the impact on indigenous wildlife. Mr. Pharr provided clarification.

Mr. Glenn Slade (Bacon's Castle District) requested additional information regarding the efficiency of equipment and future expansion of the facility.

Mr. Ben Hollinger (student at William & Mary College) spoke in support of the project.

Mr. Dexter Godfrey (Global Wind, LLC) thanked supporters of the project and expressed the company's commitment to work in cooperation with adjacent property owners in this history making endeavor. Mr. Godfrey also thanked the Board for their consideration of the project.

Chairman Blount closed the floor to public comments. Supervisor Seward made a motion that the Board approve CUP 2014-03 with the recommended conditions. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Lyttle and unanimously approved.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### 1. Facilities Use Policy

Mr. Franklin informed Board members that a Facilities Use Policy had been developed at the request of the Board. Board members requested more time to consider action on the proposed policy and it was determined by the Chairman that the matter should be tabled.

#### 2. Dendron Water System Transfer

Mr. Franklin reported that the Town Council of the Town of Dendron had initiated the process of surrendering the Town's water system to the control of the County. A contract has been drafted by the County Attorney and negotiated with Mr. C.B. Faison, legal representation for the Town, and presented for Board consideration. Mr. Brendan Hefty provided additional information regarding the legalities of the draft contract.

Mr. Darryl Rickmond, of Bowman Consulting Group, addressed the Board to provide information regarding the condition of the current water system and its capabilities for expansion. He informed that the current system has 134 residential connections. With some upgrades to the system, it could be expected to support up to 200 residential connections.

Supervisor Holmes made a motion that the Board accept the Town of Dendron water system into the County utility system and that they authorize the County Administrator to execute an agreement with the Town for such transfer, subject to approval of the terms by the County Attorney. Supervisor Wooden seconded the motion which received unanimous approval.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

#### CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

There being no further comments for the public, Supervisor Holmes made a motion that the Board move to Closed Session to discuss both the acquisition of real property and the disposition of publicly held real property where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the County's bargaining position, as permitted by the Code of Virginia §2.2-3711(A)(3). Supervisor Wooden seconded the motion. Supervisors Blount, Seward, Holmes, Lyttle and Wooden voted affirmatively.

Supervisor Seward moved that the Board return to open session and certify by roll call that the Closed Session was concluded and that nothing had been discussed except the matter or matters permitted to be discussed under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. Supervisor Lyttle seconded the motion; all members present voted affirmatively.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board, Supervisor Holmes made a motion to continue the meeting to Thursday, October 23, 2014 at 5:00pm for the purpose of conducting a work session followed by a joint meeting with the Surry County Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals in the General District Courtroom of the Surry County Government Center at 7:00pm. Supervisor Seward seconded the motion; all present voted affirmatively.